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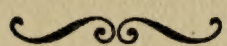
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Shower book
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Harper

Ballroom

THE
SHOWER BOOK



The Shower Book

*Seventy-Seven Showers
for the Engaged Girl*

By

EMILY ROSE BURT

*Author of "Make Your Bazar Pay,"
"Planning Your Party," Etc.*

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New York and London
HARPER & BROTHERS

1928

THE SHOWER BOOK
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FOREWORD

BECAUSE, long ago, an obstinate parent didn't like the husband his daughter picked out and refused her a dowry—thus the story goes—bridal showers began, for the bride's girl friends rallied round and gave her enough household things to set up housekeeping. Bridal showers seem to have been popular ever since, and such a demand for new ideas for them has arisen that this book has been prepared.

Here are shower breakfasts, luncheons, suppers, teas, dinners. Here are shower dances and bridges, a cabaret, a fashion show, a progressive cruise, a treasure hunt, a mock wedding, an auction; showers on a boat, on the lawn, on the seashore, by mail and by moonlight.

Here are showers suitable for the holidays—New-Year's Eve, St. Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, May Day, Fourth of July, Columbus Day, Hallowe'en, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Here are original suggestions for the most customary kinds of showers—kitchen, linen, house-

hold, handkerchief, hosiery, lingerie, and variety. You might guess that a Crusoe shower is a stocking shower, a Tweedledum-and-dee shower a kitchen one, an Eve shower lingerie, but can you imagine the meaning of a Pirate shower, a Featherweight shower, a Humpty Dumpty shower?

Then besides the usual types there are ideas for special showers with titles that explain themselves, such as a Candle shower, an Electrical shower, a Check shower, a Basket shower.

Many of the invitations are in rhyme, many of the menus for refreshments are included, there are a number of contests and amusements, and special attention has been paid to the way of giving the presents on each occasion.

Although some of the ideas are fanciful, they are not impractical and indeed many of them have already been carried out successfully.

Different parties for different tastes, you know, so if one shower doesn't happen to suit you, turn the page and another surely will.

THE AUTHOR.

KITCHEN AND PANTRY



THE SHOWER BOOK

A KITCHEN STYLE SHOW

A KITCHEN fashion show is an amusing way to give the presents at a kitchen shower. Ask each girl to make a hat out of her gifts and be prepared to wear it in a fashion parade for the benefit of the guest of honor. Then the hats will be presented and can be untrimmed. An invitation might be written somewhat on this order:

*You're invited to a kitchen shower
We'll change it to a show
And all the presents meant for dower
Are what will make it go!*

*You're asked to make a sort of hat
Just out of kitchen tools,
A kitchen apron wear with that,
(We'll look a bunch of fools!)*

*There'll be a prize for funniest gear
And one for most bewitchin';
The hats will make the bride's first year
Successful in the kitchen!*

All sorts of combinations of kitchen utensils will occur to you. A visit to the hardware department of a department store or to your five-and-ten will give you suggestions. For instance:

A collander turned upside down and trimmed with a tiny percolator brush.

A double boiler worn helmet fashion and trimmed with a can-opener.

A kitchen bowl covered with a dishcloth and worn with a kitchen-towel scarf. (Hold this hat on with the hand.)

A sieve trimmed with two tea balls.

At such a shower the refreshments might be served in kitchen things. Salad can be served from a mixing bowl and ice-cream in patty pans.

GOING MARKETING

“LET’S see how far you can make your money go in these days of budgets,” they told a bride-to-be at a kitchen shower. Forthwith they handed her a market basket and a pocketbook—a very pretty one, by the way—for her to keep, full of stage money.

Then a screen at the end of the room was taken away, revealing a realistic vegetable stand filled with colorful produce; a gorgeous green cabbage, a snowy cauliflower, purple eggplant, knobby yellow squashes, great purple and white rutabagas, long cucumbers, orange carrots with feathery tops, ears of corn with silky tassels.

All had at least an outside covering of crêpe paper. Behind the counter stood one of the girls in a long white grocer’s apron, ready to recommend her wares.

When the bride-to-be had filled her market basket she was prevailed upon to look her vegetables over carefully and perhaps prepare them for use.

Then the true nature of them came to light—

every one of them was a kitchen present in disguise. A fat little kettle was masquerading as a cabbage, a collander as a cauliflower, a measuring cup as an eggplant, an egg-beater as a turnip, salts and peppers as carrots, a can-opener was the foundation of a cucumber, a set of measuring spoons, an ear of corn.

The refreshments were in key. Stuffed-tomato salad on lettuce leaves was served, preceded by a delicious cream-of-vegetable soup. Asparagus salad with Russian dressing could be served, and creamed mushrooms and peas on toast or in patty shells is another suggestion for the main dish.

The favors were little sewing waxes in the shape of colored fruits and vegetables.

A M O C K W E D D I N G

SIX girls dressed as ushers at a wedding came out with open umbrellas to escort the bride-to-be from her car into the house of her hostess, and that was the first intimation she had that she was being given a shower.

It was all a mock wedding. The ushers went first, then the bridesmaids, all carrying bouquets of carrots. The tallest girl of the bunch was flower girl and scattered huge sunflower heads.

The bride, wearing a mosquito-netting veil and carrying a shower bouquet which was a snowy cauliflower with bits of tissue paper dangling from it on strings, advanced on the arm of a father made portly with pillows.

The bridegroom and best man met the procession at the end of the room and at the words "Take her" from the portly father the bride and groom faced the dominie, who sonorously put to them a nonsense formula such as this:

"Willie, do you promise to maintain for this woman not less than three country houses, two town cars and a bicycle, a speed boat and a yacht,

and take her abroad once or more times a year?"

"Jessie, do you promise to keep accounts, keep hens, keep house, and keep still?"

"Willie, will you treat this woman rough?"

"Jessie, will you take this man at his word?"

When the time came for the ring, the best man fumbled ostentatiously and finally produced a huge curtain ring which the bridegroom forced on the bride's arm.

The wedding breakfast was the real stuff. There were chicken patties and then little sandwiches, ice-cream in forms, and *petits fours*.

After the breakfast the real bride-to-be was escorted to a table to view the wedding gifts, and there was spread a marvelous array of kitchenware and kitchen furnishings, arranged in true wedding-present display fashion. A shining tin dishpan was set up like a tray, a set of kitchen spoons was arranged in due order, a tin strainer with enameled handle might have been a solid silver mayonnaise ladle from the care with which it was placed. So double boilers, nests of bowls, glass baking-dishes, colanders, and can openers all held glorified positions.

When the real bride-to-be left, the final touch was a shower of confetti.

A COLORED KITCHEN SHOWER

IF a bride-to-be is to have a kitchen of her own she will love a shower of the fascinating colored-enamel kitchenware. Find out first what color she is going to feature in her kitchen and then go to it.

When she arrives she may be confronted with a mock show window in which all the ware is displayed department-store fashion. Looking through the glassless panes she will see a tasteful group of, say, green cooking pots, a green garbage pail, and a green dustpan; green-handled kitchen knives, forks, spoons, and strainers; a plump green teakettle; perhaps a green dishpan.

Yellow, red, and blue are other choices of colors.

The enchanted girl—for surely she will be delighted—may then be told that for demonstration use she is to be allowed this shop window array in her new home.

Each utensil should be tagged with the name of the donor instead of with its price.

Carry out the color scheme in the refreshments:

for a luncheon you might have cream-of-pea soup, sliced alligator-pear salad on lettuce, clear green jelly or pistachio ice-cream with little cakes.

For afternoon refreshments, cucumber sandwiches and sandwiches filled with cream cheese and watercress, tea, with green mints and little frosted cakes are suggested.

Green glassware on the table emphasizes the color note.

If other colors are used, the following menus might be possible.

Yellow: Cream-of-corn soup, chicken, crab or tuna-fish salad with mayonnaise, tiny custard tarts or frozen custard.

Red: Canapés of tomato and anchovy paste on toast, chicken or crab salad garnished with pimento strips, apples with a clear cinnamon drop in each, thus looking red when done.

It is better to depend on blue dishes and blue flowers than blue food, if you decide on a blue-and-white shower.

A KITCHEN ALPHABET

“Do you know your alphabet?” was the way the invitation to the bride-to-be read.

When she arrived she was presented with a box of big pink cardboard initials. In the room was a table containing a splendid display of kitchen utensils, and the stunt for her was to match the letters to the presents. As fast as she identified them the letter was tied to its object. This was the list of kitchenware and you can readily see that before every letter was assigned there might have been enough confusion to make the contest interesting.

A—pple-corer
B—read-board
C—an-opener
D—ishcloth
E—gg-timer
F—ork
G—rater
H—older
I—ce-pick
J—elly jars

K—nife-sharpener

L—id

M—easuring cup

N—ut-cracker

O—range-squeezer

P—ancake-turner

Q—uart cup

R—olling-pin

S—poon

T—ray

U—tensil

V—egetable knife

W—ashing-powder

X—tract

Y—ellow soap

Z—inc mat

You could have a kitchen-alphabet contest if you wished before the real contest took place, each person to name an alphabetical list of kitchenware.

The refreshments took the alphabet into account to the extent of alphabet noodles in the chicken bouillon and, after a fruit salad, ice-cream accompanied by what looked like children's alphabet blocks, but what really were squares of cake iced and lettered in red frosting.

A N A L U M I N U M S H O W E R

IN THE center of the room hung a gorgeous colorful bouquet of—not flowers—but vegetables; orange carrots with feathery tops, silvery-skinned onions, crimson beets, pale green leeks. All had been scrubbed till they glistened, and tied with orange raffia, they made a lovely group. Streamers of the same orange raffia in various lengths hung from the bouquet shower-fashion and to each was tied a gift of shiny kitchen aluminum ware. Double boiler, funnel, spoons, measuring cup, egg poacher, small kettles, dipper, skillet, salt and pepper shakers—were all there.

Buffet refreshments were served on aluminum ware; ice-cream in little patty pans and fruit lemonade in aluminum cups that frosted invitingly from the icy coolness within.

The favors were *boutonnieres* for the coat collar and were made up of tiny artificial vegetables.

This same idea could of course be used for any kind of kitchen shower.

A T W E E D L E D E E - A N D - D U M ;
S H O W E R

THE famous twins Tweedledee and Tweedledum were sketched on the invitations. (They can be traced on thin paper from the illustration in *Alice in Wonderland* and then transferred by means of carbon paper to correspondence cards or note paper.) You remember that Tweedledum and Tweedledee were tricked out in coal scuttles and kettles and other kitchenware as armor, so naturally they might suggest a kitchen shower. The invitations to all but the guest of honor said:

*Will you, won't you kindly come
On Saturday to see
Tweedledee and Tweedledum
And Betty Brown and me?*

*And will you send some kitchenware,
Skillets, rolling-pins,
Dishpans, strainers,—and prepare
To dress the famous twins?*

All but the guest of honor were asked to come at three and thus they had a hilarious time making

dummies to represent Dee and Dum. Using umbrellas, canes, sticks of firewood and the like, they made a frame-work on which to arrange the kitchen presents. Faces were marked with crayon on cheesecloth and stretched in place, topped with two double boiler parts. Spoons were hands sticking out of coat sleeves.

By following the *Alice in Wonderland* pictures a very presentable pair can be manufactured.

At four o'clock came the guest of honor, and had not only the shower but the surprise party sprung on her.

Alice in Wonderland refreshments were served, namely, little cakes that had a sign stuck up in their midst saying EAT ME, and fruit lemonade with straws labeled DRINK ME.

Other appropriate refreshments would be oysters in some form in memory of the *Walrus and the Carpenter* episode.

A PANTRY SHOWER

*A can of beans, a can of peas,
A can of anything you please,
For anybody's¹ pantry shelf,
Wrapped cleverly to suit yourself
Please bring; along with lots of ardor,
For stocking up a couple's larder.*

THIS invitation was sent out to all the bunch to which the bride and bridegroom belonged. The couple was to start housekeeping after a brief honeymoon so it was a most appropriate kind of shower.

The gifts ranged all over the field of canned goods—tuna fish, crabmeat, lobster, canned vegetables, canned soups, canned fruits and jams. The guise in which each can appeared was the greatest feature of interest. There were all kinds and colors of paper and all sorts of decorations from fringe to gold paper modernistic designs. Each was as original and individual as its donor could manage.

The refreshments all came out of cans. There

¹ Insert name of engaged girl.

were canned salmon salad, sandwiches with fillings of various tinned sandwich spreads, fancy gingersnaps and other cookies from cans, and peach Melba with canned peaches. As the ice-cream used came out of gallon cans, it managed to come in under the heading of canned goods.

A HUMPTY DUMPTY SHOWER

*Humpty Dumpty made from a can
Holding food for maiden and man
Sits on the shelf of the bride-to-be
Ready for any emergency!*

*(Will you bring a Humpty Dumpty with you
to a can shower next Friday night in honor of
Betty Brown?)*

INVITATIONS bearing some such rhyme and instructions might go out on correspondence cards on which a tiny Humpty Dumpty made of a can could be sketched. By winding the can with white paper or cloth, marking on this a funny face above a wing collar and attaching arms and legs of wire, cord, twisted paper or anything else that occurs to a fertile brain, you can make a sort of Humpty Dumpty out of a can or jar of canned goods.

A row of Humpty Dumptys sitting on a shelf would be an amusing sight for the recipient and she would hardly be able to bring herself to dismantle them in order to discover her true treasure of canned goods.

A P O U N D P A R T Y

AN AMUSING yet practical shower which a young people's society gave two of its members who were just married was a pound shower. Everybody brought a pound of something, the choicer the better, such as paper shell pecans, or extra fine prunes or apricots or honey, or pound cans of coffee, tea, cocoa. Each package bore a big seal with the initials of the society and the packages were all delivered in two big market baskets by a white-aproned delivery boy. It was a surprise shower for the young couple and more appreciated than some less well-planned surprises.

AN ORANGE MARMALADE SHOWER

IT STARTED as a joke because this particular bride-to-be had said that her husband was an orange marmalade hound. It was reported that she had said that he wanted orange marmalade for breakfast every day.

So a few of the girls who wanted an excuse for another party for her anyway invited her to a Sunday morning breakfast. It was one of those company breakfasts that really mean luncheon. The menu began with fruit and coffee and ended with chicken and waffles and orange marmalade.

After breakfast a bit of entertainment was staged by two of the girls. One represented the bride-to-be and the other the bridegroom-to-be. They were seated opposite each other at a small table and were going through a pantomime of making toast on an electric toaster. Husband asked where his orange marmalade was, for he vowed he couldn't eat toast without it. Wife said she forgot to order any. Husband looked black. Then each girl in the audience offered to help

him out—saying that she had brought a jar of orange marmalade with her because she had heard that he simply must have marmalade and she was afraid his new wife might forget it sometimes.

Each guest presented her jar of orange marmalade to the mock husband and “he” then turned to the guest of honor and presented the jars to her with a speech to the effect that this scene must be a lesson to her, and that in the meantime the breakfast hour was provided for.

The marmalade was some of it homemade and some bought. It was put up in a variety of containers and each gift wrapped differently and amusingly.

HOUSE FURNISHINGS



AN EARLY AMERICAN SHOWER

IF YOU know that a girl is hoping to furnish her home in Early American fashion a shower that she will appreciate will be an Early American one. Of course each guest can't hope to bring an antique, but the crowd can club together and give one or two nice things—or the shower may be limited to small Early American antiques or good copies of them.

Cunning invitations could be cut in the form of tiptables with the wording on the table top. If you prefer, these could be simply sketched in India ink on correspondence cards.

It would be appropriate to call this shower a "bee"—a sewing bee, quilting bee or just a conversation bee if you wish. If the latter, have a list of questions and answers in the fad of the moment—on Early American furnishings. You can have it a pencil and paper contest or just an oral quiz. Or you can make the engaged girl answer everything!

For instance here is a list of ten such questions and answers:

Questions

1. What is a dish top table?
2. For what craft is Paul Revere famous?
3. Who was the greatest American cabinet maker?
4. Who were the "Big Four" of early furniture making?
5. What is Sandwich glass?
6. Where were the first clocks in America made?
7. What is (a) a Windsor chair, (b) a Boston rocker, (c) a Hitchcock chair?
8. What do the following stand for: "Blazing Star," "Lee's Surrender," "Lonely Heart?"
9. Why are there no twin beds of maple to be found in antique shops?
10. What woods were favorites of the early cabinet makers?

Answers

1. The earliest and simplest tea table with tiptop having a rim around the top to keep dishes from falling off.
2. Making hand-wrought silver.
3. Duncan Phyfe.
4. Adam, Chippendale, Hepplewhite, and Sheraton.
5. Pressed glass made in Massachusetts 1825-1885. It was covered with interesting designs.
6. Massachusetts and shortly after, Connecticut.
7. (a) A Windsor chair has a back of slender spindles set into a solid seat and rising to a bent top rail; (b) A Boston rocker is a Windsor chair with rockers added to it, wooden seat turned up in the back and a wide top rail; (c) A Hitchcock chair has a rush seat, top rail and one slat across the back, upper half of back uprights shaved flat and bent gracefully back, usually painted black and stenciled.
8. Woven coverlet patterns.
9. Because all beds were double beds in early American times.
10. Pine, maple, cherry, mahogany.

The shower gifts could be given to the bride-to-be as a prize for answering this contest. A pewter bowl, pewter service plates, a pewter pitcher or candlesticks; modern Paul Revere silver, Early American glass, a painted tin tray, a lovely old mirror, a small table of any one of the tip varieties are but a few suggestions.

Early American refreshments might be served, if possible on pewter, old glass and china.

Preserves and johnnycake or hot biscuits and tea would be different certainly from the usual afternoon refreshments.

A CANDLE SHOWER

IT WAS a simple little shower but it pleased the romantic soul of the girl for whom it was given.

The room was lighted only by candles, rose-colored ones, and the charm of that soft radiance gave a kind of glamour to the evening.

The gifts were all candles—for that was one of the hobbies of the bride-to-be. "We'll always have candle light at dinner no matter how small our budget," she had declared.

So the girls had brought tall delicate banquet tapers in all the pale lovely colors, ivory, peach, coral, lemon, flesh, and green. And there were shorter ones to use in tall candlesticks, and jolly yellow and orange and red ones for parties, and rose-colored ones to match the new bedroom chintz.

The candlesticks everyone knew would probably be forthcoming as wedding presents and on top of the other showers the girls couldn't afford to give those, but the possibilities in that line are unlimited. There are the lovely pottery candlesticks, the glass ones in amber, green, ruby, and

rose; crystal ones; pewter, copper, and silver candlesticks; cunning bedroom candlesticks with handles; interesting Spanish and Italian ones.

At a candle shower for entertainment some one might read Edna Millay's poem, beginning "I burn my candle at both ends." And if you want a stunt try the old one of telling a story in which, at the climax, the candle suddenly goes out due to previous cutting out of the wick at a certain point.

A BATHROOM SHOWER

"WHEN I get married I'm going to have a yellow bathroom," one girl had declared, so when she announced her engagement some of her friends remembered that remark and acted accordingly.

From the lighting fixture in the center of the room they hung a hoop and by means of rings arranged a shower curtain on it. This too was a gift to the engaged girl.

The victim, as the bride-to-be called herself upon being ordered to walk inside the shower curtain, found a shower of yellow-wrapped gifts hanging by yellow ribbons from the hoop. When she had them untied from their anchorage she found all kinds of lovely yellow equipment for a bathroom: yellow-bordered bath towels and wash cloths to match, a yellow and white bath mat, cunning yellow guest towels, a jar of yellow bath salts—the bottle tied with a great smashing yellow bow—a cunning yellow sponge, a big round yellow tin of bath powder, and for a joke—some "yaller" soap.

Cunning yellow soap dolls or toys if you can find them would make good favors.

A soap-carving contest would finish out the affair rather appropriately.

A GLASS SHOWER

*Crystal: amber, rose or green
Fit for table of a queen,
Plates or goblets, tumblers, bowls,—
In its many lovely roles.*

*Or the more prosaic glass
Coming in the kitchen class;
(Pie plates, casseroles and such
Help a housewife very much!)*

*Any one or all of these
Will be extra sure to please
One whose fondest future dreams
Are of owning glass, it seems.*

SUCH an invitation gives such wide choice in the now so popular field of glass for cooking and table service that an interesting and useful array of gifts is sure to result.

Think of the antique glass bottles, the etched glass cigarette boxes and ash trays, Colonial glass curtain hold-backs, the cunning glass lamps and all the other things for the house besides table and kitchen glass.

A pretty way to give the presents is to arrange them on a shelf or table where the sunlight can shine through them and bring out the color. The oven glass will not suffer by the process either.

It would be fine to serve the refreshments on glass if the hostess can manage it. Salad or ice-cream looks most attractive on colored glass.

A N A U C T I O N S H O W E R

EVERYBODY in the bridge club was invited to an afternoon of auction and all but the engaged girl were asked to bring shower gifts. The tables were arranged for auction bridge, but there was also a big poster in a conspicuous place which read as follows:

AUCTION!!!

household linens

kitchenware

personal things

Brides-to-be
will find here
treasures
for
trousseaux.

A big soap box had been brought in and there was an auctioneer's red flag flying. The shower

gifts lay heaped on a table close by a wooden ice mallet which presently came into play when the hostess mounted the soap box, rapped for order and began the auction.

Each article she held up to view, discoursing on its merits and asking for bids. Whether there was any bidding or not, she pretended to hear bids and after going up to a fabulous sum would knock it down to the bride-to-be. Imitating an auctioneer's manner admirably she had everybody in a hilarious state.

At the end of the auction the engaged girl had a stunning array of gifts and everyone was almost too excited to finish the afternoon with auction bridge, as was planned.

Tea and sandwiches were served at the auction tables after they were all through playing.

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A RUSSIAN SHOWER

THE invitations had little ponies cut from Russian ponyskin pasted on them and they insinuated that a girl who rode a Russian hobby should be tendered a Russian tea when she was married. Her whole crowd—both girl and boy friends were invited.

Tea was served from a brass samovar; the girls' tea in cups, the boys' in glasses, in true Russian way with lemon. Colorful plates of Russian sandwiches were served. These were uncovered sandwiches cut in interesting shapes and made with various kinds of cold cuts, smoked salmon and caviar. Cake was served and with it small dishes of preserves—a real Russian feature.

Russian embroidered linen runners and Russian brass candlesticks decorated the table and to the guest of honor's delight and surprise were thrust upon her as gifts from the bunch.

Some Russian records on the phonograph added Russian color to the atmosphere.

AN ELECTRICAL SHOWER

*Thunder and lightning:
Lightning and thunder:
What is the meaning
Of this you wonder.*

*Simply this—an electrical shower
Is to occur for the bride of the hour
Tuesday at half-past eight by the clock—
Come if you're not afraid of a shock!*

OVER the rhyme on the invitation, streak a few jagged lines down the card to add to the atmospheric effect.

For a shower of this kind perhaps instead of bringing individual gifts a crowd may chip together and get one or two worth-while pieces of electrical equipment such as a coffee percolator, a toaster, an electric table stove, a waffle iron.

Refreshments may be served informally and electrically. For instance, they may consist of waffles and coffee, or toasted cheese sandwiches, or creamed something on toast.

A LITTLE HOUSE SHOWER

FOR a girl who's to be married and move right into her own little house after the honeymoon, a group of her friends might arrange a shower of house linens or other household things.

Invitations might be decorated with a tiny pen and ink or pencil sketch of a house and be headed "A Little House Shower," with the following rhymed instructions:

*Bring something for a little house,
The nest of newlyweds,
Linens for kitchen or for bath,
For table or for beds.*

The centerpiece on the table where refreshments are served should be a charming little cardboard house such as you can buy in a toy store and put together. You may arrange to have tiny roses climbing up over the door or a little garden at the back if you wish. Some tiny piece of doll house furniture may be used at each plate for a place card.

The bride-to-be is given a deed with impressive

seal to the little house on the table and told to take possession. When she lifts the roof and looks in she finds the shower gifts. If the doll house is fairly large and the gifts not too bulky they can be concealed in the house. Luncheon sets, bath towels, linen sheets and pillow cases, however, do take up room and if the house is not big enough to hold them, a note is found saying that the linens are to be found in a hamper under the table, and are thereupon produced. Each one should be done up and sealed with a little house seal.

It is not necessary to have the miniature house on the dining table—it can be large enough to accommodate everything and stand all by itself on a living-room table. If the presents don't and won't go inside, they can be arranged in a pile with the house perched on top.

LINENS



A CHINESE SHOWER

A BUNCH of girls had a lovely Chinese embroidered luncheon set and napkins to give to the engaged one in their midst so they decided on a Chinese shower in her honor. They decorated with Chinese lanterns and around the walls hung whatever Chinese panels they could assemble.

Presently they handed the guest of honor a scroll covered with Chinese characters (real or fictitious, it matters not). This they asked her to translate and offered her a prize if she interpreted it correctly. Of course she failed and then one of the girls volunteered to read the meaning. It was a sentiment truly Chinese in its deprecatory tone:

“Will the most glorious and exalted guest of honor and bride-to-be condescend to accept a very mean and trifling gift from her most lowly and humble bunch of slaves? If indeed she will condescend, will she enter the lowly dining room and receive this worm-like offering?”

At her place in the dining room at the table set for a jolly little supper was a box done up with Chinese paper and cord and coins.

This she opened to find the loveliest of Chinese luncheon sets.

The supper consisted of chop suey and rice, tea and candied fruits. There were most amusing favor place cards in the shape of little Chinese paper dolls wearing padded silk kimonas.

THE PEDDLER'S PACK

INVITED to tea in honor of the engaged girl among them, the "bunch" was sitting about afterward when a ring came at the doorbell. The hostess opened it and ushered in a gypsy peddler woman with a big old basket, oilcloth covered.

"She says she would like to show us her linens," announced the hostess.

Of course it did not take long for the girls to discover the true identity of the peddler in spite of her veil-concealed darkened features. She was a younger sister dressed up and the linens which she displayed in real gypsy fashion were the linen shower gifts of the girls present. With glib tongue the peddler described the merits of the linen pillow cases, luncheon doilies and napkins, guest towels and dish towels in her pack.

There ought to be a label bearing the donor's name fastened to each gift for the benefit of the recipient's future reference.

A T O W E L S H O W E R

*Without a howl
You'll bring a towel
For Dotty's shower, I know.
Dish, bath or face—
So it may grace
A bride's new bungalow.*

SUCH an invitation will bring out a big variety of towels, which can be hung on a clothesline across the living-room to greet the bride-to-be.

Refreshments may be served on little tables each covered with a checked dish towel, and afterward the set of dish towels may be given to the guest of honor.

A CROSS-STITCH SHOWER

THE girls in an embroidery and sewing club were invited by the president to an Easter luncheon and shower in honor of a newly engaged member.

The invitations, which looked like little samplers, were printed on cross-stitch paper with blue, red, and green ink and read like this:

*Sweet lady, wilt thou sup with me
In honor of ye bride-to-be,
On Monday week, and for that she
So greatly liketh cross-stitch wear,
A token meet wilt thou prepare
And fetch it for ye maiden fair?*

The table was decorated with five old-fashioned flower-filled baskets made to look like the formal baskets so much seen in cross-stitch work. A slightly larger basket stood in the center and four smaller ones at the corners, each of brown wicker with a high handle, on which a bright yellow bow of satin ribbon was tied. A gay assortment of blossoms filled each basket: purple hyacinths and

pansies, pink rosebuds, red, orange, and white tulips, and yellow jonquils, but yellow predominated. Streamers of yellow ribbon, laid flat on the table, connected the baskets.

At each place was a tiny cross-stitch Easter chick pattern in yellow on a white card with the guest's name at the bottom of the card.

The bride-to-be did not dream of a shower till after dessert, when a lovely cross-stitch tray was brought in heaped with packages, which proved, of course, to be engagement gifts.

LINGERIE AND HOSIERY



AN EVE SHOWER

*Eve never had a bridal shower
Before she married Adam
In those old days in Paradise
The natives never had 'em.*

*But times have changed—a lady can't
Like Eve prepare no trousseau
She must stock up on lingerie
For other ladies do so!*

*So just pretend you're clothing Eve,
An Eve in modern dresses—
Bring anything that she can wear
From toes clear up to tresses.*

SEND this invitation out with a little serpent twining around the initial letter and see what response you'll get.

The girls will bring silk stockings, lingerie, handkerchiefs, necklaces.

Do the presents up in leaf-green paper and tie a little red apple, real or artificial, to each package.

The refreshments should feature apples. Serve

cider and ginger-bread and that picturesque apple dessert made by peeling and coring apples and putting them in the oven to bake with enough cinnamon candies in them to turn them a wonderful shade of red, if they are basted with the syrup while cooking.

A P E A C H E S S H O W E R

AT A luncheon shower for a bride-to-be the table will look sprightly enough if the place cards are old-fashioned girls with bouffant silk skirts, which are really gay handkerchiefs pulled through a slit in the card at the waist line. Thus each guest has a favor at the same time that the hostess has a table decoration.

The handkerchiefs may be in a variety of colors or all in one shade to carry out some one definite color scheme as, for instance, peach.

The menu also of course should follow the scheme as far as practicable. Here are three suggestions:

MENU I

Halves of cantaloupe (the peach-colored kind inside)
Creamed shrimps in patty shells or on toast
Small sandwiches with pimento cheese filling
Peach ice-cream Angel cake

MENU II

Shrimp cocktail Olives
Asparagus salad with Thousand Island dressing
Hot rolls
Peach jelly or ice-cream
Macaroons

MENU III

Cream of tomato soup
Chicken salad with rolled sandwiches spread with
pimento cheese
Cantaloupe halves

The gifts for the bride-to-be could all be peach-colored lingerie and could be presented by a little peach of a girl dressed in old-fashioned costume like the place-card dolls.

A R A D I O S H O W E R

WITH a little sketch of a loud speaker initialing the card the following invitation went out to a combination luncheon, shower and bridge:

Please listen in next Saturday, station W B L (initials of hostess).

PROGRAM

- 1.00 P. M. Luncheon
- 2.00 P. M. Shower for Mary M—
- 2.30 P. M. Bridge Hour

Of course the full name of the hostess was added so that there would be no confusion and the necessary data about the shower presents had to be included. The gifts were sent to the hostess in advance of the party.

In the center of the table was a miniature house bearing a sign: Station WED. From the aerial above it silver cords stretched to the places of the eight girls and ended in tiny receiving sets.

When the time scheduled for the shower arrived the hostess asked every one to listen in. Some one in the next room imitated a radio announcer and broadcast the news that numerous

gifts for the bride-to-be had been sent in to station WED and could be claimed there.

Thereupon the bride-to-be explored the miniature house labeled WED and found all sorts of little personal things for her trousseau—small enough of course to be wrapped and hidden in the doll house.

The party wound up as scheduled with bridge—for which the tallies were decorated with zig-zag rays interpreted as static. *Ec-static* was the way some one said it.

A HOPE CHEST SHOWER

'Tis old-fashioned to mope

Sit about and hope

And fill a big chest with a trousseau.

That isn't the way

It happens to-day

If girls want to marry, they do so!

And yet, even yet,

It's a pretty safe bet

*That the hope chest's not quite out of
place;*

Give a girl silken hose,

Linens, lingerie—those

Will be welcomed with very good grace.

USE this rhyme on the invitation to a lingerie shower with instructions to bring the gifts the day before so that the hostess may arrange a surprise way of presenting them.

What this way is comes out when the bride-to-be is presented with a miniature cedar chest full of the gifts. Enchanting replicas, in doll size, of real cedar chests can now be bought in the toy departments of large stores. The chest itself is not without its uses in a bride's new household.

P U F F - B A L L S

THE front of the house was in darkness, with lights burning in the back to avoid a too suspicious look. The guests were grouped on the inside stairs leading up from the entrance hall and each was given a little sachet puff-ball. These balls were made of two circles of different colored crêpe paper, one placed inside the other with the edges fringed. They were filled with soft cotton and sachet, twisted and tied with ribbon, with the two-colored fringe above the ribbon. As the guest of honor entered the dark hall she was greeted with a shower of these little balls and cries of "Surprise!"—the light being flashed on simultaneously.

This, however, was but the prelude to the shower—it was followed by the presentation of a lovely dainty case filled with lingerie.

A BLUEBIRD SHOWER

THE bluebird will always be a favorite with showerers, although any other bird may be substituted if you wish a more unusual affair.

Of course the invitations are adorned with bluebirds either painted on correspondence cards or cut out and pasted on. Tiny bluebird seals can also be obtained to use.

What looks like a big nest with a bluebird sitting on it may hold the presents. A round sewing basket makes the nest or, if the presents are very large, a round clothes basket. The bird might be one of those hot handle holders made in the shape and shade of a bluebird. If the bird is very small in proportion to the size of the nest so much the more fun.

The gifts may be nest eggs, in fact if lingerie, hosiery or handkerchiefs, they could be rolled up and put in the cardboard eggs sold at Easter time. If it is a real Easter shower a toy bunny may be sitting on the nest.

Blue celluloid birds may be perched on the rims of the glasses at the table—each holding in

its beak a card with the name of the person to sit there.

Serve bird's nest salad—a ring of chicory or water cress or shredded cabbage holding tiny balls of cream cheese flecked with paprika—and cheese straws, or a stuffed egg salad with Russian dressing.

A STOCKING BOUQUET

DO YOU know the clever little ads for their silk hosiery that some department stores send out; cards with an insert in miniature of a peach or beige silk stocking? One girl borrowed this idea for her invitations to a stocking shower for a bride-to-be from her intimate friends. The inscription on correspondence cards with the little set-in silk stocking read this way:

*On Saturday please come to tea
In honor of our bride-to-be,
And will you bring, or better send
The day before—my gracious friend,
A pair of stockings, nine the size,
In any hue that you think wise?*

The tea seemed conventional enough with its sandwiches and cakes and gossip. But the engaged girl opened her eyes wide when she was presented by the hostess with what seemed to be a huge quaint old-fashioned bouquet. On close inspection all the faint rose and beige and gray blossoms surrounded by their border of green

ferns and white lace paper tied with pastel ribbons turned out to be lovely sheer silk hose which by a skillful little twist had been given the appearance of roses.

A big tray of tiny old-fashioned bouquets of real flowers was then passed—one bouquet for each guest to wear home.

A girl who has a garden can make these up easily of rosebuds, sweet-peas, snapdragon, coreopsis, baby's breath, pansies or any other flowers small enough to be suitable.

The tiny lace paper holders can be bought or paper lace doilies can be used.¹

¹ From Dennison Mfg. Co., Framingham, Mass.

A CRUSOE SHOWER

OF COURSE such a shower would be held on Friday. The invitations would run along this line:

*On Robinson Crusoe's desert isle
There wasn't much to make him smile*

*Until a footprint in the sand
Meant Friday's presence close at hand;*

*There was no sign of sock or shoe.
Well—times have changed for me and you*

*So now when Friday comes around
Let lots of silken hose abound!*

All the bride-to-be knew was that she was asked to a Robinson Crusoe luncheon and bridge on Friday.

There was a thatched hut of paper surrounded by palms in the center of the table. It stood on a sandpaper mat on which tiny paper footprints were pasted. A celluloid parrot perched on each goblet.

The menu was:

Fruit cocktail
Chicken *à la* King—Olives
Hearts of palm salad
Orange ice

At dessert time in strolled a small-boy Robinson Crusoe—sun-hat, umbrella and all—looking just like the pictures of Crusoe that one sees. Out of his pockets he took all sorts of packages wrapped in leaf-green and tied with gorgeous ribbons in tropical colors—scarlet, purple, yellow. These he said had been washed ashore on the desert island with a message, whereupon he proceeded to read the rhyme which appears above. Thus explaining the point, he carefully handed the packages over to the guest of honor who was delighted to find that she had thus made a good haul of silk stockings.

STOCKING MOTTOES

WHAT looked like a box of snapping crackers turned out to be really several pairs of silk stockings, every pair rolled and wrapped in a gay color of tissue paper fringed at the ends! Each pair was from a girl friend—and all the fashionable colors were represented. Hidden in each package was a motto or bit of advice. The mottoes were as follows:

1. Roll your own!
2. Shoes and socks shock Susan.
3. A stitch in time saves a run.
4. Try to stand on your own feet, not some one else's.
5. Oh, darn!
6. Hope you have a spare!
7. Oh, for a "better 'ole"!
8. Try this over on your piano legs.

The refreshments appropriately included crackers: Welsh rabbit served on crackers and hot coffee.

This was an evening affair given by a business girl for an office friend. It was an easy and pleasant way for one busy girl to entertain for another busy girl.

VARIETY SHOWERS



AN AUTUMN LEAF SHOWER

IN THE fall when you can decorate gorgeously with glorious-colored foliage an autumn leaf shower can be made a pretty affair.

As the bride-to-be comes in, arrange to have the breeze from an electric fan near the door send a flock of colored leaves fluttering down about her. These leaves can be cut from fancy crêpe paper patterned in autumn leaves or can be cut from plain paper in shades of brown, red and yellow.

The bride-to-be is told that every orange leaf has a message for her so she is to seek eagerly till she has collected them all. The orange leaves should bear respectively inscriptions such as, "Hunt among the autumn leaves till you find a package from Margery," "A parcel from Helen is hidden under the leaves" and so on.

But the whereabouts of the presents should remain a mystery until a little sister of the hostess appears drawing an express cart heaped with real autumn leaves. She pauses before the guest of honor who is expected to rummage through the

leaves till she finds the packages which correspond with the orange leaves that she holds. The packages should be wrapped in autumn-colored papers and if they are of different shapes and sizes so much the better.

Hold this party a little before teatime and serve tea, sandwiches and thin cookies cut in leaf shape, salted nuts and mints.

A C I R C U S S H O W E R

ADMIT ONE TO CIRCUS SHOWER

THIS legend was printed on pink pasteboard which served as invitations to an amusing sort of bridal shower.

The hostess was dressed as the traditional clown: baggy suit, neck ruff, chalky face with red cheek spots, pointed cap. She said that she had a bag of tricks and proceeded to draw packages done up in odd ways from a big bag. She read off an imaginary message as she passed each package to the guest of honor. "From the Double-up Sisters," "From the Performing Weasels," "From the Trained Seal," "From Peg, the Pig-faced Wonder," and so on. (The guests had sent their gifts to the hostess in advance, to be wrapped.)

Presently an ally of the hostess entered, wearing a white-linen coat like a circus attendant, bearing a big basket and bawling out: "Ham 'n chicken sandwiches." The clown hailed her and said sandwiches were to be furnished to the

crowd. Plates as well as sandwiches appeared from the capacious basket and everyone was supplied. Then entered a soft drink vender and offered gingerale in bottles with straws. In due time an ice-cream seller appeared with his ice-cream slices in readiness to eat and finally a peanut boy—only his bags of peanuts were little waxed paper envelopes full of freshly salted peanuts.

The final touch came when the hostess announced the animal parade and a big tray full of tiny toy animals went the rounds, each toy bearing the name of a guest who was to take it home captive. Each animal carried a burden which proved to be a tiny handkerchief in a gay color.

Very cunning animals of celluloid, wood, metal and other composition can be found at the five-and-ten or in department stores.

A VISIT TO PARIS

ONCE there was a girl who, having visited Paris, was mad about everything French and so her friends, when she became engaged, gave her a shower that took account of this taste of hers.

Everyone brought something French, mostly French lingerie or cosmetics. The way of giving the presents was unusual to say the least.

The amusing map of Paris that can now be bought in most bookstores was one of the gifts and was put in a convenient place to consult. This the guest of honor was asked to do for guidance to certain spots of interest which she should visit. The names of these on the map had been faintly circled with a pencil so that the map was not injured by the marks. The method of travel was made clear when different objects in the room were discovered to be labeled to correspond to the marked places on the map.

For instance, the Eiffel Tower was represented by the bridge lamp at the foot of which lay a prettily wrapped packet. Thus began a tour of the room in combination with constant consul-

tation of the map. The places visited were:

Madeleine—clock

Gare du Nord—fireplace

Café de la Paix—nested tables

Notre Dame—bookcase

Louvre—radio

Montmartre—mantelpiece

Le Dom—victrola

Bon Marché—living-room table

Pont Neuf—footstool

Champs Elysées—sofa

Bois de Boulogne—window box

Eiffel Tower—bridge lamp

The refreshments were Frenchy, too—hors d'œuvres and brioches, chocolate and *petits fours*.

A BLACKBIRD SHOWER

Four and twenty blackbirds baked in a pie.

THAT was the keynote of an interesting shower. A great mock pie was borne in and set before the bride-to-be. From slits in a brown-paper crust stretched over a dishpan twenty-four paper blackbird heads stuck out. The guest of honor was bidden to pull them rudely from the pie and, as she did so, a chorus of warbles arose from different girls with concealed bird-whistles.

Each black bird proved to be but the tag attached to a gift, which was forthwith drawn out of the pie pan and opened.

For refreshments at such a party veal birds could be served for the first course along with green peas. Veal birds are made as follows: Cut small pieces of veal steak one-quarter inch thick, four inches long by two inches wide, each piece making a bird. Chop trimmings of meat, adding for every three birds a piece of fat salt pork cut one inch square and one-quarter inch thick; pork also to be chopped. Add to trim-

mings and pork one-half their measure of fine cracker crumbs, and season highly with salt, pepper, cayenne, poultry seasoning, lemon juice and onion juice. Moisten with beaten egg and hot water or stock. Spread each piece with thin layer of mixture and avoid having mixture come close to edge. Roll, and fasten with skewers. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, dredge with flour, and fry in hot butter until a golden brown. Put in stewpan, add cream to half cover meat, cook slowly twenty minutes or until tender. Serve on small pieces of toast, straining cream remaining in pan over birds and toast, and garnish with parsley. A thin white sauce in place of cream may be served around birds¹.

The last course could be ice-cream pies made by filling pastry shells with ice-cream, topping the ice-cream with meringue and browning the meringue in the oven. This offers a real surprise—as is suitable for such a shower.

¹ Recipe from *The Boston Cooking-School Cook Book* by Fannie Merritt Farmer, Little Brown Co.

A BALLOON SHOWER

A BEVY of balloons in all the colors of the rainbow floated before the astonished eyes of one bride-to-be as she entered her best friend's home one evening, and was greeted by a chorus of "surprises" from the holders of the balloons.

She was further surprised by a shower of colored confetti which fell from a giant balloon near the ceiling.

With such a beginning it is easily enough imagined what a jolly evening of games and dancing might follow. The guest of honor did not realize the full significance of the party till she was escorted to a screened corner where, under a gay criss-crossed tangle of ribbon confetti, a table full of gifts came to view. Each guest had brought what fancy dictated—from kitchen spoons to boudoir slippers and the result was just as variegated and colorful as the rest of the affair.

To make the balloon, cover a ball frame, section by section, with a double thickness of crêpe paper, put on plain. A very pretty effect is obtained if two colors of crêpe paper are used, cov-

ering each section alternately. The bottom of the balloon is not covered until the balloon is filled with the confetti. Narrow ribbons are laid across the opening and this is covered with a piece of tissue paper. The ends of the ribbons are left long enough so that when the balloon is hanging in place the ribbons may be pulled and the confetti falls out.¹

¹ Directions courtesy Dennison Mfg. Co., Framingham, Mass.

AN INDIAN SHOWER

*She's going to stop paddling her own canoe,
She's to travel now in a boat for two,
So won't you appear and celebrate
Elizabeth's change from single state?*

THESE invitations went out on birchbark paper to the friends of a girl who had been camping with them all summer. The celebration was a supper and shower combined. In the center of the table was a rather big toy canoe loaded with packages, each of which had a ribbon attached. The ribbons went out to the places where tiny canoes held salted nuts.

The place cards were little placards hung around the necks of small dolls dressed to look like Indian maids, in fringed brown crêpe paper with colored headbands and the most miniature of bead necklaces.

For the main course chicken croquettes in little tepee-like form were served. The ice-cream was chocolate and cone-shaped with a tiny flag bearing a reminder of the summer's experiences stuck into each portion. Camp jokes, catastrophes or

slogans were all recalled in such phrases as "Remember Winter Island," "Oh, you corn muffins."

During dessert it was suggested that the canoe ribbons be pulled. Out tumbled all the presents from the canoe and strangely enough the name of the bride-to-be was found on each package.

A S T A R S H O W E R

ONE girl's interest in astronomy gave her friends a key to planning a rather unusual shower.

The deep-blue note paper of the invitations was scattered with tiny silver stars (such as can be bought by the box). The rhyme read:

*Vega! Sirius! Venus! Mars!
A girl who's mad about the stars
Shall have a meteoric shower,
If 'tis within her playmates' power.*

*Send whatsoever gift you please,
Dishcloth, dipper or chemise—
The day beforehand—what surprise
If it fall later from the skies!*

The bride-to-be of course had a special invitation asking her to devote an evening to the stars.

Upon arriving she was greeted by a demand to help identify some of the constellations.

Hanging from the chandelier was a shower of packages covered with dark-blue paper on each of which the configuration of a constellation had been indicated with silver stars.

"You're to have each constellation that you identify," she was told. She was jokingly given a pair of field glasses with which to gaze upward. It didn't take long to pick out the Big Dipper and the package it represented was thereupon cut down and given her. There followed the guessing of Orion, The Pleiades, The Dolphin, The Lyre with its big bright Vega, The Swan, Taurus, Corona, and Cassiopeia.

The guest of honor appreciated this recognition of her fad—if astronomy can be called a fad.

The refreshments took into account the stars. There were star-shaped salads of tomato and star-shaped cookies to eat with the ice-cream.

The fortunes of the guests were read in the stars, as favors of star sachets made of silver ribbon were passed, attached to each a tiny folded paper prophecy.

AROUND-THE-CLOCK

A BRIDE-TO-BE who was convalescing from an illness was very much entertained by a 'round-the-clock shower. To have a party for her would have been too tiring, yet her friends wanted to do something for her.

She received one morning in the mail a letter decorated with the drawing of a little clock face, saying:

*A round-the-clock trip's been prescribed;
Do exactly as described;
Every hour from box on table
Take the thing with proper label.*

In the meantime a big festive box had been brought to the house and in it were twelve trousseau gifts, charmingly wrapped—each one labeled to correspond to an hour of the day. They started with "8 o'clock in the morning" and went through to "8 o'clock in the evening."

Thus all day long the shower lasted and the convalescent hardly finished admiring and exam-

ining one gift before it was time to take another dose of the same.

This idea could be used for an invalid, not necessarily an engaged one, and little jokes or surprises could take the place of lingerie and linens.

A SUNSHINE SHOWER

A SUNSHINE shower doesn't sound plausible and for that reason is all the more entertaining. The invitations bear grinning little faces and say:

*You're bidden to a sunshine shower
Three on Saturday, the hour,
Wrap your gift in noontide glints,
Sunset hues or sunrise tints.*

The bride-to-be is showered with yellow confetti when she enters and then is confronted with a round giant yellow face. This proves to be but the disguised cover to a big hatbox which contains the sunshine-wrapped gifts. The face is made with crêpe paper and paint and could be surrounded with a ruffled halo if you wish to make it even more impressive.

The refreshments naturally enough may be sunshiny. You could have stuffed-egg salad, and the dessert could be sunshine cake served with frozen custard in each portion of which a tiny smiling-face marker could be stuck.

For favors tie little yellow handkerchiefs parasol-fashion to pencils.

Another way to carry out such a shower is to give only yellow things to a yellow "fan."

A P I R A T E S H O W E R

A PIRATICAL gang of girls with gay headbands, huge brass earrings swinging from their ears, red and green sashes tied around their middles, white shirts open at the neck, knickers or short skirts greeted the bride-to-be. They handed her a long envelope painted with grinning skull and cross-bones. In the envelope she found a paper labeled:

<h3>CHART TO CEDAR HARBOR</h3>

<p>WHERE IS SITUATED DAVY JONES' LOCKER WHEREIN SOMETHING AWAITS THE SEEKER.</p>

Then followed a rough general layout of the house with different parts marked and connected by a dotted line which indicated the course to be taken. The instructions said:

"Steer N. by N. W. past the Goldfish Isles, past the Singing Reef, through Kidd's Passage, past Hen and Chicken's Ledge, around Teapot Point, along Keepagoin' Reach, past Candlewick Island (bell buoy on left)—into Cedar Harbor."

Interpreting this, the victim walked by the goldfish tank in the living-room (Goldfish Isles),

passed the piano (Singing Reef), into the hall leading to the children's playroom (Kidd's Passage), after some exploring found some tiny toy hen and chickens there on a mantelpiece (Hen and Chicken's Ledge), circled the kitchen table on which stood a teapot (Teapot Point), went up a long flight of backstairs (Keepagoin' Reach), entered a bedroom having a candlewicking spread on the bed (Candlewick Island), and while one of the girls tinkled a table bell in her ears to indicate a bell buoy, arrived at the cedar chest (Cedar Harbor).

This bore the label of Davy Jones' Locker and was draped with fish nets and some life-like seaweed made by fringing and ruffling strips of sea-green and seaweed-brown paper.

The lid of Davy Jones' Locker was quickly lifted and within, of course, were the shower packages all whimsically wrapped to represent either pirate loot or sea treasure. One had real little gold and silver sea shells glued all over the wrapping of green, another was done up in deep blue with a border of silver dolphins, still another was a medley of starfish, spouting whales, mermaids and little fishes drawn in colored pencils on a plain white surface; another apparently had

a wrapping of silvery fish scales—a theatrical material that can be obtained—yet another bore a stunning picture of a square-rigger, all sails wind-filled. There is, of course, no limit to the results that can be obtained once the imagination is let loose on a thing of this sort. Both wrappings and chart may be planned according to individual facilities and tastes.

The food at this pirate shower consisted of scalloped tuna fish in big shells, accompanied by a seaweed salad (really just curly lettuce leaves with French dressing), and a dessert of green gelatine quivering like the sea and topped by the white foam of whipped cream.

A CRUISING SHOWER

FOR A girl who was to marry a yachtsman and who adored cruising, an appropriate affair took the form of a mock cruise. It was a progressive party, a dinner for and by six couples with a gift for the bride-to-be in each port.

A cruising chart was prepared showing an imaginary coast line with five harbors named—the harbors being of course the respective homes of some of the girls or young matrons of the group—and the course indicated.

The whole bunch met at “The Dock”—the starting point at one of the houses where cocktails and hors d’oeuvres were served. Here it was stated that before they got under way there really ought to be some new rigging and in came a rope-tied package of “new rigging” for the bride.

Then they all climbed into motor cars and followed their chart to the next harbor. Here cups of hot clam broth with whipped cream and salty crackers were served buffet style. “Something for the galley” was brought in and when the gift turned out to be lingerie the interpretation of

"galley" as a pun on "girly" was well groaned over.

From there they sped to Number Three Harbor and sat down to a main course of broiled chicken, French fried potatoes and green peas. The centerpiece at the table was a miniature boat in full sail and upon its deck lay a package labeled as cargo for the bride-to-be.

Harbor Number Four supplied a simple hearts-of-lettuce salad with Russian dressing and cheese crackers. "New sheets" was the slogan and sure enough new sheets of a very fine hem-stitched variety made their appearance.

At the last port there was ice-cream accompanied by cake and the gift was "an anchor to windward" which proved to be, inside an envelope decorated with a big red anchor, a shiny gold piece.

The whole party finally landed at the home port for coffee and smokes and dancing.

A S N O W S T O R M

*A shower that's a snowstorm is the weather prophet's
tale
And Mary'll be snowed under if my party plans don't
fail.*

The guests receive the above invitation, of course it would be a give-away to Mary, so she must have one of another sort—just an invitation for luncheon or supper.

She should be the last to arrive and should be greeted by a perfect shower of snowflakes—shaken from a confetti-filled bag over the door.

In order to keep her warm in the midst of the snow the hostess may present her with a big fluffy-ruffled paper muff—rosy pink, orchid, yellow or any color you choose. When the guest of honor puts her hands into the muff they come upon the shower packages—that is, all that are small enough to go in. If the muff is capacious it will easily hold handkerchiefs, hosiery, lingerie, towels, for none of them takes up much room.

The table should be covered with a white cloth sprinkled with Christmas-tree snow. A little

snow man made of a doll draped over with white crêpe paper and decked out with a stovepipe hat would be jolly as a centerpiece. At each place might be a small toy shovel with the name card tied to it and around the base of the snow man a ring of snowballs made of paper or cotton encasing favors, each snowball to be shoveled up in turn by the owner of a shovel.

For the last course of the menu serve lemon ice with cocoanut cake. Small popcorn balls would be suitable refreshments if you do not want to have a regulation meal served at the table.

To make the pillow muff two folds of pink crêpe paper are used for the foundation. Place the two folds of crêpe together and fold in half, making four thicknesses sixty inches long and twenty inches wide. Gather the four thicknesses together on the sewing machine, along the two long edges. Fold in half and stitch along the top. This forms the muff. Cut two long strips of crêpe paper six inches wide and gather on sewing machine through the center of the strips, thus forming the ruffles. Sew the ruffles to each end of the muff.¹

¹ Directions courtesy Dennison Mfg. Co., Framingham, Mass.

A TRAIN SHOWER

A TOY train with the freight and coal cars overflowing packages is a way to present gifts to a bride-to-be who's to leave her home town and live in another part of the country. It's an idea, too, for a *bon voyage* shower whether the recipient is an engaged girl or a grandmother. The train can extend down the middle of the table at a luncheon and at each place a little signal arm may bear the name of a guest.

You cannot present any very large gifts this way, of course, but if there are only a few oversize they may be represented by official-looking slips saying to call at the freight station. A sign to that effect may be posted in some other part of the room above the packages.

Some small boy will be honored to lend his train if you cannot find an inexpensive one at the five-and-ten.

A FISHING SHOWER

IF A girl is famous for her fondness for fishing or if her future husband is an Izaak Walton, she will appreciate a fishing shower. Make it either a fishing breakfast or a buffet supper. A breakfast could be one of those semi-luncheon affairs or a real honest-to-goodness breakfast, of which fish-cakes or broiled fish would be the big feature. Afterward the bride-to-be is to have a chance to try her luck at a well-stocked fish pond where strangely enough both fresh and salt water specimens are to be found. A hungry crowd of girls will probably prefer this fishing excursion to take place after breakfast rather than before.

A big clothes basket or tub or even a "mother's water pail" such as Simple Simon used for fishing can be labeled "The Fish Pond." Peering over the edge one sees mysterious-looking packets. The guest of honor is handed a tiny fishpole rigged up with a shelf hook on the end of the line, and told that there are as good fish in the sea as ever were caught.

Of course, she is to indulge in the time-honored

sport of trying to hook a package, but—she must guess the kind of fish she has caught before she opens the bundle.

Here are a few suggestions: a parcel decorated with a big red or yellow sun with many rays is a sunfish; a cut-out picture of a cat pasted on another is a catfish; a rainbow drawn in crayons on another indicates a rainbow trout; a parcel wrapped in blue is a bluefish; a parcel in salmon tint, a salmon; a gay balloon pasted or painted on another is a balloon fish; a dancing little red devil cut from an advertisement means a devil-fish. There will be small difficulty in guessing if no unusual varieties are selected. It would be fun of course to provide one real sticker to guess.

The contents of the packages are the shower gifts.

If the affair is to be a supper rather than a breakfast, the fishing may take place first. For the menu, fresh salmon served cold with green mayonnaise is attractive. The dessert might be mousse made in a fish-shaped mould and thin cookies cut with a fish cutter.

For table decoration a circle of tiny fishpoles might occupy the center of the table, the lines extending out to the individual place cards which

could be hooked on. If the hostess plans to give favors to the guests, cunning ones would be little feather or metal hat ornaments, each hooked fast to the end of its line. Tiny orange celluloid fish would be amusing and decorative joke favors.

A CAVEWOMEN'S CARNIVAL

"WHEN cavewomen get together" may be the slogan, and the guests may understand that they can come in appropriate costume. Bathing suits as a foundation, with the winter's furs slung carelessly over one shoulder or a bit of that leopard cloth they sell these days, or indeed anything of that nature; flowing locks, feet thrust into bare-foot sandals—all these are suggestions for the costuming.

Fruit cocktail with cherries rampant makes a good first course, and may be followed by scalloped fish—halibut or crabmeat—in shells, the shell-holders giving a very primitive tone to the affair.

Fried chicken, stuffed potatoes and asparagus tips, to give the fingers an opportunity, follow.

The dessert is a caramel ice-cream cave served at the table with miniature kewpie cavewomen dressed in character seated on each served-out portion, the doll for the bride-to-be wearing a tiny wedding-veil.

Finally a basket ostensibly of cocoanuts is brought in and presented to the engaged girl present. Brown-paper husks cover all sorts of gifts for the trousseau.

A ROSE PETAL SHOWER

WHEN a bride-to-be comes to a party and sees a pink rose-petal umbrella hanging unopened from the ceiling, what may she expect but a shower? As soon as she can be manoeuvred under it, of course, some one opens the umbrella and out tumbles rose-leaf confetti in true wedding-day fashion. This is, of course, but a symbol of gifts to come which may be presented in any pretty way. To pile them all in an opened umbrella, which is a duplicate of the confetti-filled one, is an attractive manner. The favors may be little crêpe paper umbrellas of pastel shades, each attached to a small box of sweets.

To make a rose-petal umbrella, proceed as follows: *Parasol*: Cover a parasol frame section by section with a double thickness of pink crêpe paper put on plain. Over this plain crêpe paste strips of twisted petals. *Twisted Petals*: Cut one edge of a strip of crêpe paper the required width, into rounded petals. Take each one between the thumbs and forefingers of both hands, stretch the petal slightly, then twist in opposite directions

and press close together. Pieces of narrow ribbon thirty-six inches long are attached to each of the spokes of the parasol, one end hanging longer than the others. The center stick of the parasol has a large maline bow. The parasol is hung by the handle and the ribbons fall all around it.¹

Fill the up-turned parasol with rose-petal confetti and at the psychological moment pull on a ribbon attached to one of the spokes, thus tipping out the confetti on the girl beneath.

¹ Directions courtesy Dennison Mfg. Co., Framingham, Mass.

A J A Z Z S H O W E R

Just jaggedy pieces of brilliant red, blue, yellow, green, and purple paper pasted on large sheets of note paper were the prelude to invitations to a jazz shower one evening. The girl for whom it was given loved jazz,—jazzy music, jazzy clothes, jazzy furnishings. So everyone was asked to take this into account in selecting a gift and buy something just a little extreme and unusual, say hose with clocks at the knee, or a scarf with a very modern pattern, or a brilliant Chinese-red bowl.

While everyone was dancing to the radio, one of the cut-ups in the crowd managed to make an announcement, purporting to come from the broadcasting station. It was to the effect that if the radio audience would please stand by, Isabelle Dean was about to receive a few tributes from her friends.

Thereupon a huge bundle containing the shower gifts, done up in paper decorated with great streaks and stripes in angular patterns, was borne in and handed to the engaged girl to open.

AN AVIATION SHOWER

"YOU are invited to be present at the take-off of the Spirit of Cupid from Andrews Aviation Field on Saturday the ninth," read the invitations, and there was a pair of wings like a crest at the top of the card.

The present-givers were all asked to bring their offerings for the bride-to-be the day before to Andrews Field, which was, of course, the house of the hostess.

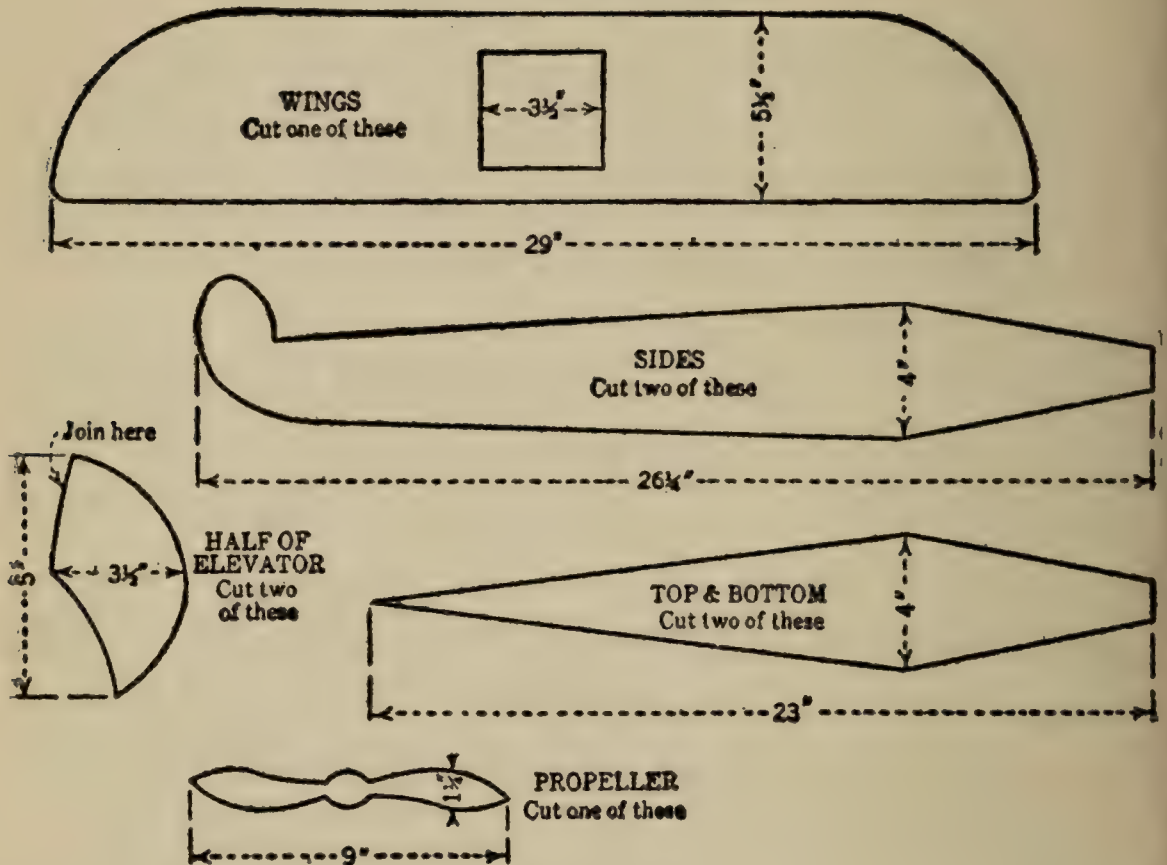
A miniature airplane—not too miniature, however, to hold a lot of packages, was labeled "Spirit of Cupid" and in the driver's seat sat two dolls dressed in flying clothes.

With motions of whirling the propeller to start it and other facetious gestures the take-off was accomplished—that is to say, the airplane was taken off the table and presented to the guest of honor.

A feature of the refreshments was airplane salad, the wings and propeller made of sliced canned pineapple, the body of cream cheese and chopped nuts.

The gift airplane itself is made as follows, mostly of crêpe paper:

AEROPLANE DIAGRAM



Cut top, bottom, and sides of cardboard like diagram and fasten together with pieces of gummed cloth tape. Cut four circles of cardboard three inches in diameter for wheels, using two circles for each wheel. Now cut a band of cardboard twelve inches long and about one inch wide. Along the center of this band lay two heavyweight wires lengthwise, fastening them

with pieces of gummed cloth tape. This is used to hold the wheels in place. Push one end of the two wires through the center of one of the circles of cardboard, fastening on the other side with pieces of gummed cloth tape. Glue one of the circles to this side—this forms the wheel. Build up the edges of wheel by wrapping several times around with a strip of crêpe paper, then cover the entire wheel with crêpe paper in color desired. Paste a circle of silver paper two inches in diameter in center of wheel on both sides. This gives the effect of rubber tires on wheel. Make the other wheel in the same way and fasten to the other end of wires. Cover bands and wire with plain silver paper and shape to fit bottom of airplane. Fasten these to forepart of plane on underside of body with wire shanks.

Cut wings of cardboard, cutting out square in center. Reinforce along each side with heavy-weight wires and cover with plain silver paper. Fasten to forepart of plane on top with wire shanks. Cover bands of cardboard twelve inches long and about one inch wide, reinforced through center lengthwise with heavyweight wire, with silver paper. Use these as supports to the wings and fasten on each side of the plane with wire

shanks to the band connecting the wheels and the underside of wings.

Cut elevator of cardboard, cutting two pieces as pattern is only half. Join with gummed cloth tape and cover with plain silver paper. Fasten to the rear part of plane with wire shanks.

Cut propeller of cardboard as per diagram. Reinforce through center lengthwise with heavy-weight wire and cover with plain silver paper. Fasten to nose of plane with an ordinary pin.

SPECIALTY SHOWERS



A FLOWER SHOWER

*Please accept these blossoms bright,
With our wishes well bedight,
Use for signs to point the way
To more lasting gifts than they.*

This verse tied to a lovely old fashioned bouquet of garden flowers was slightly mystifying to the girl for whom this flower shower was given.

Then she saw that to a number of the blossoms had been tied tiny labels, each bearing the name of a girl present.

Upon using her eyes further she saw scattered about the room in all sorts of places packages corresponding in color to the various flowers in her bouquet. Thus to match a spray of pink snapdragon in her hand she saw a pink tissue wrapped package under the table. In such a manner bachelor's buttons, larkspur, calendulas, garden lilies, roses, and sweetpeas indicated blue, orange, white, red, rose, and lavender packets.

Until she had found a packet to match up with each labeled flower in her hand she kept on with her quest. Some of the packets were not in plain

sight, either, but hidden in the wastebasket, under couch cushions, behind window curtains. The most interesting part of all this flowery presentation was that each gift was eminently practical, though decorative. There were flowered-chintz dress covers for the closet, a chintz-covered hat receptacle for keeping dust off hats on the closet shelf, chintzy shoe cases into which to slip shoes for travel, a flowered waterproof traveling toilet case, coat-hangers in assorted flower colors, a little rubberized cretonne apron, some pretty cretonne kitchen holders.

The refreshments were served on flowered china and consisted of fruit salad, tiny sandwiches, and ice-cream served in flower cases of paper, and angel cake.

The flower cases were simply small white waxed paper cups with petals of different colored crêpe paper pasted on the outside and curled over gracefully at the edges.

Good-looking rubber, leather, or wool flowers could be used as favors.

A B A S K E T S H O W E R

THERE was once a girl so crazy about baskets that there was nothing to do—thought her friends—but shower her with baskets after she announced her engagement. So she was invited to luncheon. In the center of the table was a glass basket which held a lovely arrangement of sweet-peas. At each place was a tiny favor basket full of salted nuts.

The menu savored of baskets, too, for crab and tomato salad was served in cucumber baskets and the dessert was an array of fruit baskets made by filling pastry shells with fresh raspberries and inserting little pastry handles made by baking pastry strips over a baking-powder box to get the right curve. Any fruit of the season could be used, sliced peaches, strawberries, fresh pineapple.

Just as the pretty little ivory china basket of after-luncheon candies was being passed—a small Indian basket vendor appeared with a collection which he set down for the guest of honor's attention. There were a woven melon-shaped basket

for fruit, a small covered picnic basket just big enough for an outdoor supper for two, a gay colored West Indian basket for sewing things, a soft flexible oblong basket for holding gloves or handkerchiefs in a dresser drawer, a wicker wall-pocket basket for flowers or ivy, and a big woven basket from the Kentucky mountains for holding fireplace wood. The luncheon flowers in their glass basket were also presented to the bride-to-be by the hostess.

Another idea for a basket shower is to give all sorts of things, each contained in some sort of basket. Any number of ideas will suggest themselves once you have started out with the plan.

M A S K S A N D M Y S T E R Y

A LITTLE black mask headed the invitation to a mystery party. The girl who received it did not know that the party was to be a shower, but the other guests were informed, of course, beforehand and asked to come early with their gifts. They were supplied with tiny black eye-masks and when the bell rang to announce the arrival of the guest of honor, they surrounded her, each one disguised as much as her mask allowed.

“Hands up!” they shouted. Obliging she threw her hands above her head and then instead of being robbed the opposite happened. Into her hands were showered all the wrapped gifts—which in this case were silver teaspoons, one from each masquerader.

Then off came the masks and the only mystery left to be solved was how to say “thank you” adequately.

The refreshments were ice-cream and little oblongs of devil’s food frosted to look like masks with two white jordan almonds for eyeholes in the midst of chocolate icing.

A B E A U T Y S H O W E R

The Dorothy Perkins Beauty Parlor
requests the honor of your presence
from 4 to 6

Saturday, October ninth
16 Westbrook Drive

THE above invitation was inscribed on a card sent to a certain bride-to-be. As the name of the beauty parlor corresponded with the name of one of her most original-minded friends she realized that it was some kind of unusual party.

When she arrived she was greeted by a bevy of white-aproned attendants who were her special set of friends.

They hovered around her, each saying that she had some special treatment to advise. For example, one said, "Your skin demands a special sort of French talcum powder. I'll let you try this sample." Whereupon she handed over a box of the recipient's favorite powder.

Similar remarks accompanied the bestowing of a jar of bath salts, a can of bath powder, a bottle of perfume, a vanity case, an unusual powder box

for the dresser, a jar of cold cream and sheets of tissue to use with it.

Of course, to make a success of such a shower you must know the recipient's favorite scent and brand of beautifiers.

At tea, following the presentation, the guest of honor may be passed one of those porcelain hors d'œuvres boxes divided into sections and having a cover. Within may be all sorts of little useful things for the dressing-table, such as tiny safety pins, invisible hairpins, little spools of mending silk, small sachet balls looking like colored candies.

AN ELEPHANT SHOWER

A GIRL whose hobby is elephants—a very popular fad—can be given an elephant shower. All the gifts must have the elephant motif used in some way. There may be a glass elephant to hold matches or cigarettes or candy, an elephant-shaped sponge for the bathroom, little pottery elephant salt and pepper shakers, brass elephant book ends, a felt elephant appliquéd on a pillow or table runner, elephants cross-stitched on a runner or stenciled on curtains or painted on a tray, even a tiny crystal or jade elephant to wear on a cord around the neck.

All the elephants could be arranged in a sort of parade along a table and with them might go a message on this order:

*Your favorite elephants are we,
Various sorts as you can see,
But on one thing we all agree—
White elephants we'll never be!*

A SHOWER OF BLUES

ONE engaged girl was given a shower of blues—partly because blues of all descriptions are quite the mode and partly because her friends were blue at the thought of her marrying and going to another part of the country.

The invitations that the guests received were, of course, on blue paper—that lovely tint of gray-blue—and they said:

*Of course we're all delighted
That Mary's troth is plighted*

And yet

We get

The blues—the engaged girl blues!

So kindly come to lunch

I'm asking all the bunch,

Even yet

We may forget

The blues—the engaged girl blues!

'Twill be a shower of blues,

Don't forget and don't refuse.

You won't get

Very wet

At this shower of engaged girl's blues.

The hostess had decorated the porch and rooms delectably with blue larkspur and bachelor's-buttons and pale pink roses. A great blue bowl held a bouquet of old-fashioned garden flowers.

The guest of honor was last to arrive, as her invitation had told her to come at a later hour. She was greeted by her friends, all hilarious in blue goggles. Everything looked blue to them, they said.

Presently the guest of honor as well as all the other guests were handed wee dolls' parasols of all colors with a blue bow flirting on the handle of each, in order to guard against showers which straightway began with a rain of blue confetti, followed speedily by blue-ribbon-tied packages let down by blue streamers from over the banisters in the hall, whither the guests had been lured, for the occasion.

The bride-to-be gathered in a big armful and, when the shower ceased, eagerly untied the blue ribbons to find a host of pretty blue things for her trousseau. There were a pair of blue boudoir garters—the kind you would select to wear for “something blue” on your wedding-day; there was a blue *crêpe de chine* nighty; there were two blue handkerchiefs with pastel flowers appliquéd

on the corners, a blue-painted vanity box, and a blue butterfly-wing pendant.

The luncheon certainly couldn't give any one the blues. It was served at a table set with blue embroidered runners and the centerpiece was a chubby kewpie daringly frocked in blue malines frills and a coy blue wide-brimmed chapeau. Each place card had on it a wee bird made of real blue feathers.

After a fruit cocktail, broiled bluefish with creamed potatoes was served with rolls and white hearts-of-lettuce salad on blue plates. The ice-cream was frozen pudding in quaint blue cornucopias like bluebell cups. The favors were cunning blue bottles of smelling-salts to carry in your hand-bag.

A PUSS-IN-BOOTS SHOWER

PUSS-IN-BOOTS was the patron of a jolly shower recently given to an engaged girl by some of her practical friends. On the invitations Puss strutted, conspicuous in his pen and ink boots, above a rhyme which said:

*You've often heard that shoes and socks
Once gave a certain Susan shocks,
But modern maids need all such things
Since feet are more in vogue than wings;
So Puss-in-Boots presides—'tis meet—
Over a shower for Mary's feet.*

The guests were quick enough to catch the cue, and as a result brought shoe-trees, boudoir mules, bath sandals, silk stockings, slipper buckles, a button-hook, a traveling shoe-polishing kit, shoe and rubber traveling bags, and a gay pink stocking darning.

The gifts were all wrapped and tucked away in a shiny pair of little boy's rubber boots with a cunning stuffed pussy cat peering out over the top of each. (One big boot could be used as a receptacle instead.)

There was a lively game of quoits on the veranda, using those fascinating rubber horseshoes to be bought in a toy or game department. Ringing the stake brought varying degrees of fortune to the players. This could be done on the lawn or in the house equally well.

Appropriately enough, there was dancing to the music of a phonograph, till refreshments were borne in.

"Soul" kisses, which were tiny round honey cakes frosted deep with divinity fudge, and slipper-cut cookies sprinkled with diamond sparkles of sugar at the tip accompanied the tall tinkling glasses of strawberry lemonade.

Some regular school days' "shoe strings" of licorice made a lot of fun, and everybody had a cunning glass slipper of candy to take away as a souvenir.

A RAINBOW SHOWER

A RAINBOW arch in the big triple window of a big living-room glimmered enchantingly in the late afternoon sunshine at a high tea given for a bride-to-be. The arch was of six shades of malines cleverly blended and wired in place. At one end of the rainbow was, of course, the time-honored pot of gold for the bride-to-be. The gold-paper covered jar was labeled with her name, but as she took off the first covering she discovered a box well-wrapped, bearing the name of one of the other girls.

Of course, she handed it over accordingly and watched wonderingly as the box was opened. Inside was yet another box labeled with another girl's name. To this one it was handed and upon her receiving and opening it, another box with another name came to light. So it went, till every girl present had had a hand in it. Finally a small packet at the heart of the nest of boxes again bore the bride-to-be's name.

She opened it and found a lovely necklace, the combined gift of the various girls. The

hostess, however, was the only one in on the secret of the wrappings.

Crêpe paper now comes in such lovely shades that an effective rainbow could be constructed of it, at less expense than the malines rainbow, although not quite as delicate and transparent in the sunlight.

A CHECK SHOWER

A BUNCH of busy girls once gave a check shower. They didn't have time to embroider or crochet, and, besides, they thought the girl in question might like the money, instead, to buy some specially coveted accessory for her trousseau.

It didn't seem mercenary at all the way it was done.

An invitation on white cross-barred writing paper went to the bride-to-be. She was asked to come to tea with one of the girls on a certain Saturday afternoon.

The refreshments were the first hint of the idea. There were checker-board sandwiches made of brown and white bread put together in layers and then sliced through the opposite way; little squares of plain cake iced in white, and then criss-crossed with pink lines; checkerberry candies, besides the tea itself.

The tea cloth was a pink-and-white checked gingham. The hostess had put on a cunning little checked apron like it to bring in the tea. There

was, conspicuously lying on the tray, a pink-and-white checked holder for a hot teapot handle. At the proper time the hostess offered it to the guest of honor, asking her if she was fond of checks. When the engaged girl unbuttoned the flap of the tea pot holder she was quite overcome at finding it filled with the neatly folded personal checks of the girls present. Each one of these checks was made out to her for two dollars.

A little rhyme accompanying them made everything doubly clear.

*It may indeed seem very queer
To ask if you like checks this year,
But won't you please
Accept of these
And purchase what you wish, my dear?*

All the girls were surprised by favor gifts of funny little checked-gingham dogs from the hostess.

A BOOK SHOWER

ONE girl was delighted with a book shower, because she was going to live in a remote place where she would have much time to read and no book shops to visit. The same idea could be used for a bon voyage or birthday book shower.

The invitations read:

*Yes, to be sure "she has a book,"
But let's give her another one
To help her budget, clean or cook,
Or just to read for facts and fun.*

*And wrap it up in gala dress
Of paper gay in odd designs,
So that the trimming may express
The spirit of the printed lines.*

In response to such invitations books of all sorts came in from her wide circle of friends who were invited to a farewell party in her honor. And what a medley of wrappings there were! *The Boston Cooking-School Cook Book* was wrapped in glorious orange oilcloth, a book on

budgets was covered with tissue paper on which red passepartout strips formed checks, a book of travel was done up in a clever and appropriate pictorial wallpaper, a collection of modern lyrics had a rhythmical treatment in gold and silver. There were streaks and stripes, triangles, peaks, and all sorts of geometrical designs worked out in colored paper. Then, also, the interesting figured papers that come now for wrapping made the matter easy and fascinating.

Detective stories in startling jackets, popular biographies, modern science books such as *The Story of Philosophy* and *The Story of Geology*, game books, short stories, classics, each had a characteristic covering.

Naturally a friend at court had been consulted as to the state of the recipient's library as well as her tastes.

For entertainment there was a book show on the order of a style show, and a dozen impersonated books posed and passed by. Among the titles were: *The Prairie Years* (Abraham Lincoln), *Men Without Women*, *Show Boat*, *Travels with a Donkey*, *Alice Adams*, *The Big Four*, *Lorna Doone*.

A TULIP SHOWER

THE surprise came the first thing in the afternoon instead of the last at this shower.

A window box filled with giant tulips of scarlet, rose, lilac, lemon, bronze, and orange stood in the long ledge in front of the casement windows as the bride-to-be and other guests entered the living-room of the shower hostess. Everyone rushed over to look at the flowers for they were a surprise even though the girls had all sent their gifts the day before as requested.

The tulips which were only slightly larger than the big Darwin ones were beautifully made of crêpe paper and stuck into a brown paper foundation.

The bride-to-be was bidden to look in each tulip cup to see if the fairies had left any good wishes for her—and sure enough! In the heart of each tulip lay a little folded handkerchief of the same hue as the tulip in which it lay.

The eight girls were so enchanted that they could hardly settle down to their two tables of bridge for which there were flower tallies.

The refreshments were lemon and orange ice and strawberry ice-cream served on clear green glass plates accompanied by a pale green frosted angel cake from the hollow center of which a bouquet of real tulips nodded in spring fashion. The flowers were for the bride-to-be of course and when she cut the cake and distributed the pieces they yielded little fortune favors. Tiny colored gumdrop tulips with angelica leaves were the final touch to the tulip afternoon. These are simply made by perching orange, yellow, and red gumdrops curved side down on the tips of toothpicks with two bits of angelica stuck on either side of the toothpick and the toothpick itself thrust into a chocolate peppermint foundation.

The color scheme of this shower could be used for a rainbow shower.

Tulips may be made with single or with double petals, both being cut from the same pattern. *Center:* Make a ball a half-inch in diameter, of crêpe paper crumpled in the hand. Stretch over it a two and a half inch square of green crêpe paper and pinch together underneath. Cut a strip of black crêpe paper two inches wide into fine fringe one inch deep. Full about three inches of

the strip around the ball, the top of the fringe extending a quarter of an inch above the ball. Fasten with spool wire. *Petals*: Cut six single petals or, for double petals, first paste together evenly along one edge two strips of crêpe paper, four inches wide by eleven inches long, and when cutting place the top or rounded end of the pattern at the pasted edge. Cut the petals two-thirds down from the top. Full three petals around the center, their tops extending one and one-quarter inches above the top of the fringe with the sides overlapping equally. Arrange the other three petals in another row outside the first three. Fasten with a ten-inch strip of spool wire. Paste the three outside petals together at the lower sides. *Stem*: For a double wrapping of the stem, use a half-inch wide strip of green crêpe paper. Two inches down the stem add two nine-inch wires and continue the wrapping to the end. Wrap the stem a second time with the one-half inch strip and, nine inches down, insert two leaves on opposite sides of the stem. *Shaping*: Place the finger inside of the flower and press down around the center to make a shorter and more naturally shaped tulip.¹

¹ Directions courtesy Dennison Mfg. Co., Framingham, Mass.

A SPANISH DANCE

*Red and yellow
Catch a fellow,*

says the old rhyme, so after the "fellow's" caught, why wouldn't it be fun to have a party glorifying those seductive tints?

Remember they're the Spanish colors, too, so that you can have the most up-to-date sort of a dance.

Down over the electric lights let red and yellow silken fringe drop romantically, burn red and yellow candles in tall black wrought-iron candelabra for decoration, make of the windows mysterious shuttered lattices hung with red climbing roses.

For true picturesqueness a *bal masque* is what you must plan—and then for a swirl of Spanish shawls, tortoise-shell combs in high-piled hair, coquettish fans, drifting veils, lace mantillas, gay necklaces and red-heeled dancing slippers, accentuated by villainous little black cambric masks over the eyes.

Love ditties tinkled out on the amorous guitar may intermingle with the gay jingle-jangle of the tambourines for the dancing.

Miniature red-and-yellow streamered guitars or banjos (any musical instrument will do) may introduce one feature. "Red rags" of mosquito gauze or any similar material may be used to flaunt under a rival partner's gaze in a tag dance to indicate change of partners. Mardi-gras confetti and streamers in the colors of the evening make a glorious confusion and red and yellow balloons are always irresistible.

Flowers, such as tulips of red and yellow, marigolds and poppies, cleverly fashioned from paper or bought in a millinery shop, are adorable favors for the feminine guests to tuck into hair or frock.

Real sport comes in favoring the men with gorgeous dangling earrings, which their partners must insist on screwing into their unaccustomed masculine ears.

The supper may be tremendously Spanish in color, but not in character. Chicken *à la King*, with its green of pepper, red of pimento and yellow of curry powder, is attractive if the weather is not too warm, and in that case a Spanish salad is preferable. On lettuce hearts place

halves of pears stuffed with any yellow cheese and garnish with pimento strips and olives. With the salad serve lettuce or plain bread-and-butter sandwiches or nut-bread sandwiches.

Orange ice may be served in red-fringed paper carnation cups—as the carnation is the Spanish national flower—and the cakes may be frosted separately red and yellow.

Be sure to have some appropriate beverage in which, if indeed it be only orangeade with cherries in it, to drink the health of the bride-to-be.

At the very end as a surprise let one of the men wrapped in a romantic-looking cape swagger up to the bride-to-be, fling back his cape and disclose a gift from the whole company—perhaps some choice silver or copper piece or a Spanish box containing a pair of Spanish earrings or a Spanish shawl or a lovely old wall hanging.

FEATURING HOLIDAYS



A CINDERELLA CABARET

IF YOU have a phonograph and a big living-room or a living-room and dining-room that open in together, you can give an interesting cabaret party. A wonderful time to do it is New Year's Eve.

Initialed with a little slipper the invitation may say:

The Cinderella Cabaret
will welcome you
for supper and dancing
on New Year's Eve
at nine o'clock

(At midnight Cinderella's slipper will be publicly presented to Alice Morton—in token of her having found her prince. In the slipper will be such tributes as her friends wish to bestow.)

R. S. V. P.

For the party arrange little tables, card tables, tea tables, and the like, around the edges of the room, leaving the center of the room free for dancing, with the rugs rolled up out of the way. Each table should be laid with a cloth and have a

vase with a flower or two in it—restaurant fashion.

The guests seat themselves at the small tables and a dance record is put on the phonograph. The waitresses provided for the occasion should have special Cinderella costumes, say, the insignia of the slipper cut from colored felt or paper and fastened to the sleeve if you do not want to go into the matter extensively or elaborately. The waitresses between dances circulate about, taking orders for sandwiches, gingerale and hot chocolate. Cinderella punch may be offered—any favorite fruit drink. Ice-cream and slipper-shaped cookies can be offered later on in the evening. A cigarette girl may make the rounds of the tables and at intervals New Year favors should be given out—noise-makers, fans, balloons, funny dolls.

As the clock strikes twelve, or when the bells ring midnight, the crowd may shower the engaged couple with confetti and the master of ceremonies may present a big cardboard slipper covered with gold or silver paper. Within it are the shower gifts—whatever each individual has chosen to give—though nothing, it may be mentioned, could be more appropriate to a Cinderella affair than silken hosiery.

A VALENTINE SHOWER

IT WAS literally a post-office shower. Each girl sent her gift to the bride-to-be through the mail on St. Valentine's Day.

Some one who had a camera had previously taken a snapshot of each girl and encircled it in lace paper (cut from a lace paper doily).

This very personal valentine in each case lay on top of the gift of linen or lingerie daintily done up and was sufficient indication of the donor. The outside wrappings of the presents bore St. Valentine stickers of hearts and cupid postmen and the like.

This is just the kind of shower that busy people, or people who don't like parties, can give.

A MARCH SHOWER

*"It's a long way to Tipperary"—
But you don't have to go,
You mustn't miss an Irish shower
To the sweetest girl I know."*

*Think up a pretty present,
For a jolly time prepare;
It's not so far to my house
And Mary will be there.*

THE tune of Tipperary once ringing in everybody's ears is so familiar that the above invitation fairly sings itself and is a good prelude to an Irish linen or a March 17th shower.

The date and address should be added in one corner.

The invitations may be lettered in green ink on white linen correspondence cards. If you can get the kind of paper with envelopes having a green tissue lining, so much the better.

The guests should be asked to arrive in advance so that the hostess may have a chance to wrap up the gifts in green tissue paper.

They may then be buckled into a Boy Scout knapsack and at the proper moment a small boy whistling the tune of the invitation or any other Irish air may come marching in with the knapsack on his back. This he presents in military style to the bride-to-be. He should wear a Boy Scout uniform or even his ordinary clothes with a green cocked hat and a St. Patrick's cockade.

Now that there is so much green glass, you can decorate delightfully for a St. Patrick's shower. Use pale green candles in green glass candlesticks. You can find them sometimes at the five-and-ten. Pale green damask is very smart now for table covering—so are linen doilies of a soft shade of green.

For a luncheon serve cream-of-lettuce, cream-of-spinach or cream-of-pea soup—all are delicious shades of green.

Then serve on green glass plates in nests of lettuce leaves, individual salads of chicken, crab, or tuna fish, garnished with capers and olives. Popovers, hot rolls or shamrock-shaped biscuits go well with this.

For dessert a pale green jelly made in a mould and served on a platter garnished with whipped cream would be attractive. The cookies to go

with this may be thin and in shamrock shape or high hat shapes.

Sponge cakelets frosted in light green with a few in other pastel colors for variety are another suggestion.

Coffee and green mints may follow.

As favors for the guests cunning green bordered handkerchiefs may be concealed in little green trinket boxes.

AN EASTER EGG SHOWER

THE guest of honor thought she was invited to a Saturday afternoon of bridge but the other six besides the hostess knew it for what it was to be. They were all business girls from the same office and had compared with each other the amusing little invitations. These were correspondence cards with small cartoon pasters in a corner of each.

There were two hours or so of bridge and then about half-past four came signs of refreshments, with everybody crowded on the davenport and around the two card tables put together.

Potent punch was followed by sandwiches and then by ice-cream and small cakes.

Still the guest of honor suspected nothing. Then the hostess brought out a wicker waste-basket full of big gay papier-mâché eggs—the kind that are made of two parts to fit together and hold a favor. There was one of these for each guest until the bride-to-be was reached and at the bottom of the basket lay a giant egg, red and pictorial, at least a foot-and-a-half long which was

bestowed upon the engaged girl. Not till then did it dawn on her that this party was a shower! Quickly she lifted the two halves of the egg apart and out fell tissue-wrapped, ribbon-tied packets. There were all sorts of pretty things for a trousseau; sheer stockings in pale shades, handkerchiefs, silk underwear, ostrich-trimmed garters, coral-colored mules (planned by one who knew that she was to have a coral-colored negligee).

The guest favors were those little sewing kits which look like tiny wooden ladies and when the dame's head is twisted off a thimble, needles, and thread are disclosed.

As the shower took place shortly before Easter, the egg feature made it timely.

A MAYBASKET SHOWER

THE pretty old custom of hanging Maybaskets suggests a shower for an engaged girl on the first of May. On that night at twilight a girl's special crowd may hang her a Maybasket, ring the bell and hide while she opens the door and discovers the basket.

Use any fairly big basket, such as a market basket or wood basket, fill it with flowers and beneath them conceal the shower gifts. Tie a great pink or blue or yellow bow on the handle. The gifts may be wrapped to match.

Some one of the crowd should arrange to see that the bride-to-be is at home so that the plan can go through successfully.

Of course when the Maybasket is discovered the recipient knows that the donors are in the vicinity and without unnecessary chasing she can collect them and invite them in to watch the opening of the basket. If the flowers are very lovely, the finding of the gifts in addition will be a most pleasant surprise. The basket itself is a useful present.

This is an excellent way to give lingerie or house linens.

Beforehand the girls managing the party can arrange with the mother of the showered girl to have ice-cream or other refreshments sent in later in the evening.

A FOURTH OF JULY SHOWER

A SHOWER which was given just a few days before the Fourth of July turned out very successfully when a pack of giant firecrackers proved to be something else entirely.

Each firecracker was a stocking in disguise. The stocking was rolled and then wrapped in tissue paper bunched at one end to which a string was tied. This string, when the tissue-covered packet was placed in a tube of red pasteboard, extended out in fuse fashion. The imitation of firecrackers was very good, so much so that the bride-to-be was warned not to try to set them off. When she pulled on the fuse, out came the package.

The favors for the guests were small red cardboard firecrackers holding tiny mints.

A handkerchief shower also could be given in this way.

A COLUMBUS DAY SHOWER

IF A GIRL has a weakness for the Italian in furnishings, a shower based on that taste will be appreciated. You might plan it for Columbus Day if convenient, and send out rhymes of this sort:

*Italian linen, china, art,
Holds spellbound ———'s¹ heart
So, won't you, if you'd be so kind
Select a gift with this in mind?*

*The party's on Columbus Day
For what could be more fitting, pray?*

If you don't have the shower on October twelfth, leave off the last couplet. If you celebrate Columbus Day but want to make it a different sort of shower, substitute what you will for the first couplet.

If you make the affair a Columbus Day luncheon you could have a lovely fruit arrangement for a centerpiece, and serve an Italian menu of, say, melon, chicken and mushrooms in cas-

¹ Insert name of bride-to-be.

serole, and spumoni ice-cream. The place cards could be in the shape of sailing ships and you could tell the guest of honor that her ship would be coming in presently. The tea wagon could then be rolled in bearing the gifts—each one from across the sea.

There are so many lovely Italian things now that it is not difficult to choose a gift: Towels, luncheon sets, bridge sets, doilies, Venetian glass, Cantigali bowls and plates and little pots, plaques, boxes, ornaments of all sorts.

A HALLOWEEN SHOWER

THE invitations were orange cards initialed with little black scarecrows such as anyone can sketch roughly. The guests were asked to send their gifts in advance for the guest of honor for whom the shower was given. This enabled the hostess to carry out a scheme she had in mind for presenting the gifts at a big party on Halloween.

The evening of the affair the guests were amused enough to find a strange scarecrow in possession of the living-room. No one was allowed to go very near him till the bride-to-be arrived. Then she was bidden to approach and shake his hand. He was wearing an old coat in true scarecrow fashion and there seemed to be no hand to shake. The bride-to-be however bravely reached into the right sleeve and—pulled out a package.

Then the secret was out, for Mr. Scarcecrow's old clothes were just a blind for the shower presents and soon there was nothing left of him but a hatrack and a couple of old umbrellas (his

arms). The packages had all been concealed under the coat or in the sleeves.

Regular Halloween refreshments were served and the favors for the guests were scarecrows made on yellow lead pencils with black crêpe de chine handkerchiefs picoted in orange. Each pencil was stuck into an orange frosted cake.

A jolly scarecrow could reign at a kitchen shower—made out of the kitchen utensils themselves. A kettle would make the head, large kitchen spoons or potato mashers the arms, kitchen knives and forks the fingers, dish towels, aprons and dusters the draperies. Whatever might happen to be given could be concocted into such a creature with a little ingenuity.

A THANKSGIVING SHOWER

MRS. PUMPKIN-EATER

Four to six

November the twenty-fourth

The Pumpkin Shell
12 Woodson Avenue

THIS was the curious invitation that an engaged girl received. The rest of the bunch received similar ones, except that theirs were accompanied by personal notes explaining that this was a shower for Jane and asking them to "remember the pumpkin" somehow in choosing their shower gifts.

It was just a genuine jolly afternoon tea party, made a bit jollier by a variety of mottoes hung on the walls around the room by Mrs. Pumpkin-Eater—"Shell, Sweet Shell," "Bless our Pumpkin Shell," "When Peter's Away Mrs. Eater Will Play."

The fact that pumpkin color is so popular and was the favorite shade with the guest of honor

quite bore out the burning of pumpkin-colored candles and the using of cups and plates in the same soft tint.

It was before the little pumpkin patties and coffee were served that "Mr. Pumpkin-Eater" suddenly arrived with a bushel of pumpkins he had picked in his patch. This offering was set down in front of the guest of honor who was asked to give her opinion of the crop.

Upon examination each pumpkin (wrapped in cotton batting, orange-paper covered and tied with pumpkin-colored wool) proved to be a surprisingly appropriate engagement gift. For instance, there was a pumpkin-colored scarf, a nest of glass pie plates, a fat, stuffed pumpkin pin-cushion for the kitchen shelf, a lovely crash runner for a refectory table in natural colored crash, with a motif embroidered in pumpkin-colored wool; a pumpkin-colored fruit or salad bowl and a boudoir vacuum bottle in tan, brought by an inveterate punster because it was "pump-kin."

While the girls were all gayly nibbling salted almonds, which, by the way, were not bad imitations of pumpkin seeds, Mrs. Pumpkin-Eater announced that she would allow some of the "Eater" children to come in. This remark heralded a

basketful of quaint little figures, with shawls pinned close about smiling orange faces. They were all lollypops on sticks and their wraps were cunning color-bordered handkerchiefs.

Each guest was begged to adopt one of these small creatures, and consequently they were taken away as souvenirs, the handkerchiefs, of course, being perfectly practical in themselves apart from being lollypop shawls.

Nobody was heard to say on leaving that she had had a perfectly punk time.

A CHRISTMAS STOCKING SHOWER

DURING the holidays a bunch of girls gave one of their number a real Santa Claus shower. When the guest of honor came in she saw a row of stockings dangling from the mantelpiece—and they were no ordinary stockings but the loveliest of silken hose.

Over each stocking was a label that said distinctly: "Dorothy's Stocking." As Dorothy was getting together a trousseau she appreciatively gathered in this luxurious row and found in the toe of each stocking its mate.

(Stockings can be carefully pinned over a line strung from one side of the chimney piece to the other.)

The refreshments may be very Christmassy—little cakes cut stocking-shape and ice-cream, preceded if you like by turkey or chicken salad, garnished in the Christmas colors, red and green, with pimentos and olives.

OUTDOOR SHOWERS



A S H I P S H O W E R

AN UNUSUAL shower was held aboard a yacht anchored in a popular harbor. The invitations made it a sunset affair and the guests assembled at that hour so heavenly on the sea. As it is also the beverage hour—ceremonies opened with a long cool drink on deck.

Presently a small dingy was observed approaching and as it came alongside, the oarsman asked if a lady by the name of Miss Helen Briggs was aboard as he had a message for her. Miss Helen Briggs, said the skipper, was indeed aboard and was in fact the guest of honor. Thereupon the oarsman produced a great tarpaulin-covered basket and said he had been told to deliver it to her.

It was lifted on deck, set before the bride-to-be and the oarsman rowed away.

Under the tarpaulin were all sorts of gifts relating to the sea and ships; a lovely glass beaker with a ship etched on it, ship book-ends, glass salad plates with ships in the glass of the center, ships painted on boxes and trays, ships embroi-

dered on towels and runners, ship curtain pulls, a ship's lantern for the hall.

A wonderful broiled lobster supper followed the shower.

A SEASHORE SHOWER

IF MANY of the members of a crowd summer at the same seashore place an amusing shower can be given. Invite everybody to meet under the orange umbrella (that of the hostess) on the beach. Possibly you could send out correspondence cards bearing the following inscription:

Weather predictions for next Friday
A shower (for Dora) in the afternoon
about four

Unusually pleasant conditions
prevailing under the
Daltons' orange
umbrella

The gifts must be sent in advance and when the guests themselves arrive with the bride-to-be the shower has evidently hit the umbrella for there are packages dripping from the tip of each rib and heaped on top. The bride-to-be garners these all in.

A beach supper cooked over an open fire would be a jolly wind-up.

A MOONLIGHT SHOWER

A UNIQUE shower was given by moonlight for a young bride-to-be. A bar of Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata headed the invitations, which ran thus:

*To fairies' ring by silver ray,
Pray come and bring a spirit gay.*

The party was held on the lawn and porch in full view of the moon and there was actually a fairy ring marked out in the grass with tiny fairy umbrellas.

The guest of honor was escorted into the center of this magic ring and bidden to shut her eyes tightly. Then the other girls circled singing around her, and when they called to her to stop she found at her feet a glimmering white package tied with silver tissue like a strand of moonlight. All the girls had chipped in together to buy a dozen silver spoons.

For refreshments the hostess served a delicious strawberry sherbet in bubble-like glasses

and ethereal little cakes made mostly of cocoanut stirred into beaten egg-whites and then baked in the oven until nicely browned.

The fairies saw to it that every guest had a wee silver trifle of some sort as a favor.

AN OUTDOOR LUNCHEON SHOWER

VERY original and pretty bouquets were the most talked-of feature at a summer shower luncheon held out of doors. Little tables were set out under the trees and at each place was what looked like an old-fashioned bouquet. It was made by edging a big coral-pink geranium blossom with candytuft and ringing that about with a circle of blue ageratum, the whole set off by a frame of fragrant rose leaves. You can see that the effect was that of an old-fashioned bouquet.

A luncheon which carried out the pink color scheme was served: Pink watermelon cubes in fruit cocktail glasses, creamed shrimp and new peas in patty cases, little buttered graham rolls, fresh strawberry ice-cream and little squares of cake frosted in delicate colors.

After luncheon, which the bride-to-be did not suspect of being anything else, the hostess presented the guest of honor with a big basket of garden flowers beneath which lay heaped the shower packages brought by the guests.

A COBWEB SHOWER

HERE'S a new way to give that old favorite—a cobweb shower. Hold it on the porch and weave the web of colored ribbons across a window-pane facing on the porch. In the meshes of the ribbon fasten the shower gifts as compactly as possible.

The bride-to-be may be confronted with this huge web and asked to show her housewifely abilities by getting rid of it.

In unwinding it, she comes one by one to the presents of course.

Bridge may follow with refreshments afterward or you may serve merely afternoon tea, for which, on a hot day, a long cold tinkling drink may be substituted.

Little mechanical spiders or flies would be amusing favors.

